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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : Larry Eugene Steidl
George Michael Stoila, Jr.

FOR : **TIRE CURING SYSTEM AND METHOD**

SERIAL NO. : 10/603,635

FILED : June 25, 2003

LAST OFFICE ACTION : Unknown

EXAMINER : Unknown

GROUP ART UNIT : 1722

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : 31065.23702 (DN 1997-228 US-D-01)

Akron, Ohio 44308-1471
July 14, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: **Amendment**, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the following date:

7/15/04

Connie J. Nutter
Connie J. Nutter

Mail Stop: **Amendment**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the applicant files this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) under at least one of the following five circumstances:

☐ 1. **There is No Information to disclose:** No patent novelty search was performed in this case and neither the Applicant nor the undersigned are aware of any prior art devices or documents which they believe to be material to the invention as claimed. This document is being supplied for informational purposes to the Examiner and is evidence of our desire to comply with the duty of disclosure.

☐ 2. **Under § 1.97**, this IDS is filed with the knowledge that it will NOT be considered, but WILL be placed in the file, if

- (1) this IDS is filed BEFORE the grant of a patent; AND
- (2) this IDS does NOT comply with the requirements noted below

☒ 3. **Under § 1.97(b)**, this IDS should be considered because it is being filed

- (1) within 3 months of the filing date of a national application, other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d); OR
- (2) within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage of an international application as set forth in § 1.491; OR
- (3) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; OR
- (4) before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114, whichever occurs last.

☐ 4. **Under § 1.97(c)**: this IDS should be considered because it is being filed after the period specified Under § 1.97(b) above, BUT

- (1) before either the mailing date of a final action under § 1.113 OR
- (2) before the mailing date of a notice of allowance under § 1.311; OR
- (3) before an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, whichever occurs last AND

it is accompanied by one of the following statements under § 1.97(e):

I, Heather M. Barnes, Esq., the undersigned hereby state:

(a) ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement, OR

(b) ☐ To the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement; OR

☐ A check in the amount of \$ 180.00 is enclosed to cover the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) as required when neither item (a) nor (b) above are selected.

☐ 5. Under § 1.97(d): this IDS should be considered because

(1) it is being filed after the period specified Under § 1.97(c) above but ON OR BEFORE payment of the issue fee, AND

(2) it is accompanied by one of the following statements under § 1.97(e):

I, Heather M. Barnes, Esq., the undersigned hereby state:

(a) ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement, OR

(b) ☐ To the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement; AND

☐ A check in the amount of \$ 180.00 is enclosed for the petition fee as set forth under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

In accordance with § 1.56 and § 1.97 the references listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A are being brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of these cited documents are enclosed.

☐ Under new USPTO requirements, because the corresponding utility patent application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of any U.S. patents or published patent applications herein disclosed have not been attached. However, the appropriate patent numbers or publication numbers have been provided. The Applicant believes this to be true based on the attached waiver information as provided by Steven G. Kunin, Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy.

☒ Please charge deposit account No. 071725 if any additional fees are required.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate consideration of the cited references by returning a copy of the attached form PTO/SB/08A, with initials or other appropriate marks.

Respectfully submitted,

BROUSE MCDOWELL

July 25, 2004
Date

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/603,635
Filing Date	June 25, 2003
First Named Inventor	Larry Eugene Steidl
Art Unit	1722
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket No.	31065.23702 (DN1997-228US-D01)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number--Kind Code ² (If known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 3,932,079	01-13-1976	Legostaev, et al.	
		US- 4,728,274	03-01-1998	Siegenthaler	
		US- 5,622,669	04-22-1997	Dailiez et al.	
		US- 5,631,028	05-20-1997	Mizokawa, et al.	
		US- 5,741,528	04-21-1998	Amano, et al.	
		US- 5,746,964	05-05-1998	Ureshino, et al.	
		US- 5,681,594	10-28-1997	Irie	
		US- 5,820,885	10-13-1998	Irie	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document County Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (If known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		DE1 204,814 - German	03-27-1922			
		2 619 337 A1 - France	02-17-1989			
		EP 0 510 332 B1	05-06-1998			
		7-117055 - Japan	05-05-1995			
		EP 0 712 704 A2	05-22-1996			
		EP 0 754 530 B1	01-22-1997			
		DE 196 084 A1 - German	March 1907			
		DE 44 34 406 A1	03-16-1995			
		8-164528 - Japan	06-25-1996			
		8-150623 - Japan	06-11-1996			
		8-164527 - Japan	06-25-1996			
		7-100834 - Japan	04-18-1995			
		7-96526 - Japan	04-11-1995			
		7-80846 - Japan	03-28-1995			
		7-80845 - Japan	03-28-1995			
		7-1469 - Japan	01-06-1995			
		5-77249 - Japan	03-30-1993			
		3-197007 - Japan	08-28-1991			
		60-159010 - Japan	08-20-1985			
		8-132442 - Japan	05-28-1996			
		8-127025 - Japan	05-21-1996			
		8-127026 - Japan	05-21-1996			
		7-60753 - Japan	03-07-1995			
		4-323010 - Japan	11-12-1992			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the right of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9799) and select option 2.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	2
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OTHER DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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